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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph at page 6, lines 18 to 24 as follows:

FIG. 1 illustrates graphically the yield benefit in pulp delignification with increase in PS_{UV}/PS_{GR} ratio;

FIG. 2 illustrates graphically the relationship between polysulphide decomposition and temperature; ~~and~~ .

FIGS. 3 and 4 show the relationship between pulp yield and permanganate number for polysulphide liquors of the invention at different temperatures; and ~~conventional white liquors for different pulps~~ for a kraft conventional white liquor for a softwood (Fig. 3) and a hardwood (Fig. 4) pulp, and

FIG. 5 shows the relationship between storage time and temperature for producing the maximum about of PS_{UV} and the value (measured as absorbance) of this maximum.

Please amend page 27, lines 4 to 13 under the heading ***EXAMPLE 11*** as follows:

This example (through Figure 5) summarizes the optimum storage time needed to maximize the PS_{UV} content of a polysulphide liquor generated by the oxidation of white liquor. The active polysulphide concentration (PS_{416}) at a given storage time is described by the curve which increases with time. The temperature at which the liquor is held in storage is described by the curve that decreases with time. Figure ~~3~~ 5 shows that, at the lowest temperature evaluated (60°C), a storage time of 60 hours is needed to produce 6 g/L of active polysulphide from a liquor initially having a PS_{GR} concentration of 8.5 g/L. At the highest temperature evaluated (103°C) a

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storage time of 2 hours is needed to produce 2.3 g/L of active polysulphide from the same liquor.